

The President's Daily Brief

~~Top Secret~~ 1 May 1967




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DAILY BRIEF
1 MAY 1967

1. Yemen

The evacuation of American personnel from Yemen continued quite smoothly yesterday; only a handful of the US staff are still in Taiz. The US chargé's office in Sana has also been reduced. Final flights scheduled for this morning will take out the last evacuees.

The two American AID officials arrested last Wednesday are still in custody.



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There has been no new word from Egypt or Yemen since restrictions on the Yemeni ambassador to the US were lifted yesterday. Nasir's top aide, Marshal Amer, indicated that this "quieter situation" might help to get the prisoners released.

Late word this morning from Sana is that a large demonstration has started in front of the US Embassy.

2. North Vietnam

The air defense operation on Saturday against the attack on the Hanoi railroad and highway bridges was one of North Vietnam's most sophisticated and well-coordinated reactions to date. Use of multiple surface-to-air missile firings, large flights of MIGs, and heavy antiaircraft fire show Hanoi's determination to protect strategic targets in the Hanoi-Haiphong area.

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3. South Vietnam

The Constituent Assembly has completed its draft electoral law. The law does not specify any minimum percentage of the total vote a candidate must receive in order to win, nor does it make any reference to a runoff election. Pressure from Ky and his supporters in the assembly probably accounts for these significant omissions.

The assembly, however, reared up on its haunches and set the election for "a Sunday in September 1967"--thus overriding the Directorate's unilateral selection of 1 September, a Friday.

4. Guatemala

[redacted] the Communist terrorist organization is planning to carry out attacks today against the US Embassy, its personnel, and US-owned property in Guatemala City. Other May Day plans include sabotage of power lines, attacks on other embassies, and assassinations in the countryside. Guatemalan authorities are alerted.

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5. Greece

There are still no signs of an effective opposition to the military takeover, but deep concern about the future is developing in Athens. The talk both in liberal and conservative circles is that the coup could well produce a permanent split between left and right--a situation which would work to the best advantage of the Communists.

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